



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**In re United States Patent Application of:**

**Applicants:** Van Buskirk, et al.

**Serial No:** 09/768,494

**Date Filed:** January 24, 2001

**Title:** Isotropic Dry Cleaning Process for  
Metal Integrated Circuit Structures

**Group Art Unit:** 1746

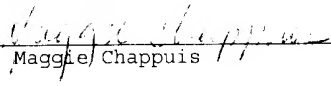
**Examiner:** Allan W. Olsen

**Confirmation No.:** 2111

**Customer No.:** 25559 Noble

**EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE**

I hereby certify that I am mailing the attached documents to the Commissioner for Patents on the date specified below, in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box AF, Washington, DC 20231, and Express Mailed under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.10.

  
Maggie Chappuis

EL 899898994 US

Express Mail Label Number

March 6, 2002

Date

**AMENDMENT RESPONDING TO DECEMBER 7, 2001 OFFICE ACTION IN U.S.  
PATENT APPLICATION NO. 09/768,494**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In response to the December 7, 2001 Office Action, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**In the claims:<sup>1</sup>**

Please cancel claims 23, 51-52, and 54-56 without prejudice.

Please amend claims 2-4, 12, 13, and 24-27 as follows:

<sup>1</sup> Applicants have provided a marked-up version of the amended claims in Appendix A, and a clean set of all pending claims, amended to date, is included in Appendix B.